DECOMMISSIONING OF STEAM GENERATORS AT LATINA NPP

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Synopsis

The decommissioning project of n.6 steam generators (boilers) at the Latina nuclear power plant (Italy) is part of the broader process of nuclear facility closures in Europe. It highlights the growing need for safe, efficient, and replicable solutions for the management of large activated components. Latina, one of the first Magnox-design reactors outside the UK, presents a unique technical challenge due to its dimensions, location, and structural features.

The project's objective is to develop and implement a segmentation and removal strategy that ensures radiological safety, operational efficiency, and waste reduction. The adopted approach follows a phased process—from preparatory activities and removal of interfering structures to the installation of a steel confinement system around the boilers, overhead cranes, mechanical segmentation using proprietary technologies (such as the Wire Diamond Cutting Machine), and final demolition and civil works. This methodology allows the adaptation of each phase to real site conditions, minimizing impacts and facilitating the reuse of components.

Preliminary results show robust planning and progressive execution without ~~significant~~ incidents. The confinement structure is proving effective in both protection and logistics. The wire cutting strategy will enable precise segmentation, reducing intervention time and secondary waste volumes. In conclusion, the Latina project sets a valuable precedent for similar future operations in European environments, positioning GDES as a benchmark in the decommissioning of large nuclear components.

PALABRAS CLAVE: DECOMMISSIONING, STEAM GENERATORS, WIRE CUTTING.